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Artwork Analysis

Introduction

Due to the social distancing rule, I took a virtual field trip to the Smithsonian museum. Smithsonian American art museum is located in Washington, D. C. The museum was a better choice for my interest in art because it had a variety of artwork. Additionally, the artwork in Smithsonian varies from ancient times to the modern world. During my visual tour in the museum, I came across a well-painted artwork ("Among the Sierra Nevada, California"). The painting comprised a different natural phenomenon, which made it more attractive, thus making me develop an interest in researching it.



Artist: Albert Bierstadt

Title: Among the Sierra Nevada, California

Date: 1868

Location: Smithsonian American Art Museum second floor in the east wing

Visual elements

Some of the significant visual element in the painting include color, light, line, texture, as well as the shape of the painting. There are different colors used in the painting, which are blue, white green as well as brown. All these colors represent a specific phenomenon in the painting. Sky blue and white color represent the skies as well as the mountain. Additionally, these two colors make some of the natural phenomena, for example, the mountain clearer ("Among the Sierra Nevada, California"). The other significant color in the image is green, which represents grassland. The brown color is also evident in the painting used in bare grassland as well as dry trees.

Another essential element of the painting is the texture, which comprises of different natural phenomenon. Trees, a lake, animals, waterfalls as well as a mountain are the critical components represented in the artwork. The animals are deer painted to be drinking water at the lake. The painting represents spectacular national views (Foster et al., 34). The texture of the image is closely associated with the light of the painting, where it appears to be a bit not clear. The main reason for this aspect is because the painting represents dawn hours before the sunrise.

Line of the painting is an element mark made on the painting surface. The line of the art is clear where the length is longer than the width of the painting. The length is 305cm, where the width is 183 cm. The painting was for the locusts representing family estates. Furthermore, another essential element of the art is the shape which helps in defining physical appearance. The shape of the art painting includes both geometric and organic. The geometric shape of the painting is rectangular, while the organic form consists of painted clouds. This aspect makes it

possible to have a clear view of all elements painted in the artwork. Moreover, the art shape helps in a clear view of the landscapes, unlike where other shapes might be used.

Principles of design

According to among the sierra Nevada, California artwork design principles observed include unity and variety, the scale of proportion, the balance of used art components as well as emphasis and subordination. All these design principles help to get a better understanding of why a certain theme was used in the painting. Furthermore, through studying different principles, it brings to light deeper meanings which the artist may have tried to explain (Foster et al., 33). Through studying principle designs of art painting of my choice, I will be able to know the meaning of natural phenomena and landscapes.

Unity and diversity are some of the most important principles used in the painting. Unity in the artwork provides for cohesion as well as coherence. In my study painting, the completeness of the painting is portrayed through the use of different aspects that represents a reproductive land. An appropriate example is the availability of grassland, forest, lake as well as animals. These aspects may have explained how California was a better living environment with a good climate as well as a good living environment (Field., 2). Diversity applies where the painting does not focus on one central concept but different varying ideas, which makes the general public more interested in the picture.

The balance principle is used in the painting, which indicates the relationship between different elements in a painting, for example, a line, shape, and color. In the California painting, green color creates a given form of equilibrium with the used art line and shape of natural aspects used. Additionally, emphasizes and subordinate principle is effectively applied. The main aim of emphasis in the painting is to draw the attention of the viewer. In the painting by Albert,

water is a component that is emphasized. In the painting, there is a water lake that is used for drinking by animals and water from waterfalls (Field., 2). Subordinate components in the painting include animals that are represented in few numbers despite massive landscapes and forests available to provide them with habitat.

Conclusion

Through the study of different elements from the painting of Albert done in 1868, some important observations are made. The artwork represented spectacular views of the American nation's frontiers. Due to the use of natural aspects such as a lake, a mountain, a waterfall, and animals, it indicated that many parts of the American nation, specifically California, were habitable. Design principles help the viewer understand why some aspects were used and the reason for their use, for example, the importance of balancing principle. Visual field tour in the Smithsonian American Art Museum was successful and educational.

Works cited

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